



Maryland

Weekly Crop and Weather Report

MD-CW0305

April 18, 2005

DRY WEATHER PROMOTES CROP PROGRESS

A dry week allowed growers to complete a lot of field work, however soil temperatures remained cool. Higher air temperatures and little or no rain allowed farmers more field time. **There were 5.6 days suitable for field work.** Planting of Maryland vegetable crops gathered momentum the past week.

Small grains were beginning to develop and were reported in mostly good to excellent condition. **Barley** was rated 4 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. **Winter wheat** was rated 4 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 18 percent excellent.

Pasture was rated 15 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 19 percent excellent while **hay supplies** were rated 6 percent very short, 27 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 17, 2005 (PERCENT)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average 2000-2004
Planting Progress:				
Corn	7	4	3	6
Cantaloups	5	4	8	5
Green Peas	43	32	56	61
Potatoes	47	35	39	47
Sweet Corn	9	4	10	13
Tomatoes	20	12	21	13
Watermelons	7	3	2	3
Fruit Crops Blooming:				
Apples	5	2	10	23
Peaches	15	9	24	47
Strawberries	24	16	20	35

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 17, 2005 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	3	76	21
Topsoil (2004)	-	2	58	40
Five Year Average	-	10	57	33
Subsoil Moisture	-	-	76	24
Subsoil (2004)	-	-	71	29
Five Year Average	7	13	62	18

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WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 17, 2005

	Precipitation			Temperatures			
Weather Station	Total this week	Total Since Jan 1	Departure from Normal Since Jan 1	High	Low	Average	Departure from Normal
Maryland							
Baltimore/Washington Airport	0.00	12.78	1.53	74	32	51	-3
Easton	0.00	16.52	3.97	71	33	50	-5
Frederick	0.00	11.69	1.48	75	31	50	3
Frostburg	0.00	13.09	0.49	73	31	48	3
Hagerstown	0.00	8.80	-1.22	72	32	50	-2
Mechanicsville	0.01	13.18	0.45	72	29	48	-6
Patuxent River	0.02	12.43	1.19	67	34	50	-5
Ocean City	0.00	13.53	-0.07	62	32	46	-8
Salisbury	0.02	13.24	0.12	70	28	46	-8
Sharpsburg	0.00	11.13	0.92	74	28	48	1
Washington, DC (Reagan National)	0.01	11.97	1.87	71	40	54	-3
Delaware							
Dover	0.00	13.44	1.37	70	34	48	-6
Georgetown	0.00	11.50	-1.31	72	29	47	-5
Wilmington	0.00	12.71	1.47	74	35	50	-2

Weather Data is provided by the Agricultural Weather Information Service, Auburn, Alabama and is considered preliminary.

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